

Exhibit No. 12
Date: 4/8/15
Bill No. HB 425

Proponent of House Bill 425 Constitutional amendment to define person
Testimony of Bethany Curtis, Kalispell, to be read before the Senate
Judiciary Committee
4/8/15

Those of us born since Roe v. Wade have grown up in a society that does not value human life. In the 42 years since abortion has been legalized we've tried so hard as a society to convince ourselves that abortion isn't the taking of a human life to the point where some have actually started to believe this lie. We've tried to fool ourselves into believing that abortion is a women's rights issue rather than a human rights issue.

Sometimes the truth is too painful to hear, and the truth of the matter is that over one million unborn babies are being killed each year in our nation, and over 55 million innocent lives have been taken since abortion became legal. To put that into perspective we are killing the equivalent of the entire population of Montana each year in this nation. We have legalized the murder of an entire class of people: the unborn.

One-third to one-fourth of the generations born since 1973 are now missing due to abortion. Consider this: more Americans have died because of abortion than the lives our nation has lost due to the Civil War, both World Wars, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Persian Gulf War, and the recent wars in Iraq and Afghanistan combined.

Imagine what those 55 million babies who were never given the chance to grow up could have contributed to society. However, regardless of what an individual may achieve or contribute to society, abortion is always wrong because it ends the life of an innocent human being. We are discriminating against these tiny human beings by denying them their right to life.

I'd like to speak specifically to those who may feel compelled to vote against Personhood believing that although you personally are pro-life you must also support other's freedom of choice. I'd ask you why you are personally opposed to abortion, and the only reason I could imagine you giving is that you believe that the baby in the womb is a human being. Recognizing that truth - that the unborn are in fact human beings, we must afford them the same rights and protections as everyone else, including the right to their very lives.

Where is the outrage? Why isn't there an enormous public outcry over such an immense loss of life? As tiny human beings unable to speak up for themselves we must speak out on their behalf and work together to ensure that innocent children are protected. A person is a person regardless of size, age, or whether born on in the womb. Our laws should reflect this obvious truth. Please vote yes in support of HB 425.